

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 40 are in the application, with Claims 12 to 14, 26 to 28 and 30 to 40 having been withdrawn from consideration, and with Claims 1, 15 and 29 having been amended herein. Claims 1, 15 and 29 are the independent claims currently under consideration. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

It was requested by the Examiner that Figure 18 be designated by a legend such as "Prior Art". Accordingly, a corrected Figure 18, which has been so designated, is filed concurrently herewith.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 6 to 10 and 20 to 24 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1 to 5, 11, 15 to 19, 25 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,682,487 (Thomson). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an image processing apparatus capable of variable magnification processing of output information. The apparatus includes holding means for holding output images in a first size and output positions thereof, and holding output images in a second size and output positions thereof, selection means for selecting a desired image from the output images held by the holding means, and designating an output size of the selected image, generation means for generating an output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output image between the first and second sizes held by the holding means of the image selected by the selection means, determination means for

determining a rendering position of the output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between the first and second sizes held by the holding means of the image selected by the selection means, and rendering means for rendering the output image generated by the generation means at the rendering position determined by the determination means. The output image is comprised of more than one object, each object having a rendering attribute, and the rendering means renders the output image on the basis of the rendering attributes of the objects comprising the output image.

According to the claimed invention, an output image comprised of a plurality of objects is rendered on the basis of the rendering attribute corresponding to each object. In this manner, the output image is rendered by rendering each object according to its attribute, when the size of the output image is changed. Specifically, this feature is illustrated in Figure 2 and is described in the specification at page 12, lines 18 to 26, page 13, lines 1 to 26 and page 14, lines 1 to 17. As described therein, each of objects 21 to 23 shown in Figure 2 are rendered by their corresponding rendering attribute, respectively.

In general, Thomson is seen to be directed to an apparatus for providing views of multiple network devices whereby a view can be resized to allow for presentation of multiple views and whereby an image can be resized. (Thomson, abstract; Figures 3 and 5; and column 2, lines 17 to 48). In this regard, Thomson is seen to disclose that, when a size of a window on a display screen is changed, information in the window is resized in proportion to the size of the change rate of the displayed window. (Thomson, column 2, lines 35 to 48; column 5, lines 29 to 67; and column 6, lines 1 to 46).

The applied art, namely Thomson, is not seen to disclose or suggest in any way the foregoing features of amended independent Claim 1, particularly with respect to generation means for generating an output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output image between the first and second sizes held by the holding means of the image selected by the selection means, determination means for determining a rendering position of the output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between the first and second sizes held by the holding means of the image selected by the selection means, and rendering means for rendering the output image generated by the generation means at the rendering position determined by the determination means, wherein the output image is comprised of more than one object, each object having a rendering attribute, and wherein the rendering means renders the output image on the basis of the rendering attributes of the objects comprising the output image.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." MPEP § 2131, citing Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ 2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applied art, namely Thomson, is not seen to disclose each and every element of amended independent Claim 1, particularly with respect to the rendering of an output image based on the corresponding rendering attribute of each of the objects of which the output image is comprised.

Accordingly, amended independent Claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. In this regard, amended independent Claim 15 is directed to an image processing method and amended independent Claim 29 is directed to a computer-readable memory which stores a program code of image processing, both of which substantially correspond to the features of amended independent Claim 1. Accordingly, amended independent Claims 15 and 29 are also believed to be in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above with respect to amended independent Claim 1.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An image processing apparatus capable of variable magnification processing of output information, comprising:

holding means for holding output images in a first size and output positions thereof, and holding output images in a second size and output positions thereof;
selection means for selecting a desired image from the output images held by said holding means, and designating an output size of the selected image;
generation means for generating an output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output image between the first and second sizes held by said holding means of the image selected by said selection means;

determination means for determining a rendering position of the output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between the first and second sizes held by said holding means of the image selected by said selection means;
and

rendering means for rendering the output image generated by said generation means at the rendering position determined by said determination means,

wherein said output image is comprised of more than one object, each object having a rendering attribute, and

wherein said rendering means renders the output image on the basis of the rendering attributes of the objects comprising the output image.

15. (Amended) An image processing method for an image processing apparatus which comprises holding means for holding output images in a first size and output positions thereof, and holding output images in a second size and output positions thereof, and is capable of variable magnification processing of output information, comprising:

the selection step of selecting a desired image from the output images held by said holding means, and designating an output size of the selected image;

the generation step of generating an output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output image between the first and second sizes held by said holding means of the image selected in the selection step;

the determination step of determining a rendering position of the output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between the first and second sizes held by said holding means of the image selected in the selection step; and

the rendering step of rendering the output image generated in the generation step at the rendering position determined in the determination step,

wherein said output image is comprised of more than one object, each object having a rendering attribute, and

wherein said rendering step renders the output image on the basis of the rendering attributes of the objects comprising the output image.

29. (Amended) A computer-readable memory which stores a program code of image processing for an image processing apparatus which comprises holding means for holding output images in a first size and output positions thereof, and holding output images in a second size and output positions thereof, and is capable of variable magnification processing of output information, comprising:

a program code of the selection step of selecting a desired image from the output images held by said holding means, and designating an output size of the selected image;

a program code of the generation step of generating an output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output image between the first and second sizes held by said holding means of the image selected in the selection step;

a program code of the determination step of determining a rendering position of the output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between the first and second sizes held by said holding means of the image selected in the selection step; and

a program code of the rendering step of rendering the output image generated in the generation step at the rendering position determined in the determination step.

wherein said output image is comprised of more than one object, each object having a rendering attribute, and

wherein said rendering step renders the output image on the basis of the rendering attributes of the objects comprising the output image.

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